



The official newsletter of Pasco County Government

Heart attack victim meets, thanks 911 call taker

Pasco County 911 call taker helped save man's life

A PASCO COUNTY 911 call taker who helped save a New Port Richey man's life last month heard the simple, but powerful words, "Thank you," during an emotional meeting November 18th with retired police officer Jerry Carlson and his wife Linda.

Jerry and Linda reached out to Pasco County Emergency Services, wanting to personally thank Rebecca Demedeiros for helping save Jerry's life when he suffered a heart attack.

Rebecca took the frantic 911 call October 8, 2016 from Jerry's daughter. Rebecca calmly explained how to perform CPR, staying on the line for about ten minutes before paramedics arrived. Rebecca was able to give detailed directions to both Jerry's daughter and his wife Linda as they switched off doing CPR – counting the compressions out loud along with them. A recording of the 911 call is available [here](#).



L-R: Paramedic Thomas Casey, Jerry Carlson, Linda Carlson, Communications Officer Rebecca Demedeiros

"She just kept us focused," said Linda Carlson. "If it wasn't for her, he wouldn't be here today. He would've been long gone."

"It's amazing; it really is," said Pasco County Emergency Services Communications Officer Rebecca Demedeiros. "To actually have someone come in and get a hug and to see them smiling."

The Carlsons also had a chance to reunite with and thank Pasco County Fire Rescue Paramedic Thomas Casey, one of the first responders to arrive on scene and take over CPR.

Rebecca started working as a Pasco County Emergency Services Communications Officer just over a year ago, on September 28, 2015. She also helped deliver a baby boy this past July.

Click to view or read media coverage of this story



Can You Answer the Call? Click to view Pasco's 911 Call Center Recruitment Video!



Stay in touch on social media



PASCO 360 TV NEWS MAGAZINE

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Bright House ch 643 (Charter Communications)

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Pasco County Libraries partners with Lynda.com

Library patrons can now access free comprehensive video training courses

PASCO COUNTY LIBRARIES is pleased to announce a new partnership with Lynda.com – the leading online learning platform owned by LinkedIn. Pasco County Library cardholders now have full access to the complete Lynda.com video library at no charge.

Lynda.com can help Pasco County residents learn business, technology, creative and software skills to achieve their personal and professional goals. More than 4,000 high-quality, engaging video courses are available – all taught by recognized industry experts.

“Lynda.com video courses are an invaluable resource for anyone re-entering the job market, trying to hone their skills for a promotion, or just wanting to learn something new,” said Libraries Public Communications Specialist Bob Harrison. “We are excited to offer this service to our patrons as another tangible way to improve their lives.”

The free video courses include training in MS Office products, like Word, Excel and Publisher; Adobe Creative Suite, including Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Muse, and Acrobat; computer programming; video/ photography; online marketing; business management; and much more.



Lynda.com founder Lynda Weinman gives an overview of the popular online video training offerings. [Click to view.](#)

There are various paid subscription levels for Lynda.com, but library patrons can simply visit the E-Content channel at www.pascolibraries.org or click [here](#) to create a Lynda.com profile with their library card. Start learning, for free, today!

For more information about Pasco County Libraries, including the library catalog, events and links to all Pasco County Library branches, click here: www.pascolibraries.org.

Pasco Co. releases new illegal dumping videos

Watch, Report & Earn!

PASCO COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT released three new videos that capture individuals in the act of illegal dumping. Residents who recognize any individual in these videos are asked to call the Pasco County Litterbug Tip Line at 727-247-0567.

Pasco County illegal dumping videos (click on video to watch):



Case #1332—A man in a dark, Ford SUV dumps a cut up tree near Fivay Junction.



Case #1337—Two men in dark SUV dump a couch and debris in the Hudson area. (Warning: video contains offensive language.)



Case # 1419—A man in a white pickup dumps tree debris in the Land O' Lakes area.

More details on these cases are available in the description section under the video window.

When calling the Pasco County Litterbug Tip Line, residents are asked to provide the case number of the video they are reporting. If a tip results in a successful prosecution, residents can be eligible to receive a \$50 reward. Individuals caught illegally dumping in Pasco County can be fined \$500 per day, per item – plus possible cleanup costs.

This latest set of videos is part of an anti-litterbug campaign in Pasco County that started in July, 2016 when the first set of illegal dumping videos was released.

The Pasco County Litterbug Tip Line at 727-247-0567 is for reporting illegal dumping violations seen in these videos only. Click [here](#) to visit the Pasco County Illegal Dumping website.



Miss an issue?
You can find past editions of the Pasco 360 Newsletter in our archives!

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Beware of Unlicensed Contractors!

Find out how you can protect yourself!

[Click to Learn](#) 

Veterans Day Recognition Ceremony & Photo

Recognizing all Veteran employees and citizens of Pasco County

THE PASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS and Pasco County Administration held a special ceremony Wednesday, November 9, 2016 to show our deepest sense of gratitude to Veterans employed by Pasco County and to those living in Pasco County.

The resolution and recognition ceremony was held during the Board of County Commissioners regularly scheduled board meeting in the West Pasco Government Center Board Room, at 8731 Citizens Dr., New Port Richey, Florida. The event was followed by a group photo outside the building in front of the Pasco County Veterans Memorial.



Pasco County is proud to recognize those who have served our great nation, both in their military service and now in their civilian service. There are more than 50,000 Veterans living in Pasco County.

"Pasco County remains a community that has historically honored its Veterans," said Pasco County Veterans Services Division Manager Don Stout. "We have a community that is proud of those who served; and it is an honor to have the opportunity to bring

together, in recognition, those Veterans who serve the citizens of Pasco County and those who represent the citizens of Pasco County."

The ceremony featured Keynote Speaker Saint Leo University Director for the Office of Military Affairs and Services Pamela Martis. The Ridgewood High School Chorus sang a beautiful rendition of the U.S. National Anthem.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Pasco County Veterans Services.

Click to view video of the Board of County Commissioners resolution and recognition ceremony in honor of Pasco's veterans.



Paint the Pump House in Colonial Hills

Community joins together with Utilities for paint project

A "PAINT THE PUMP HOUSE" EVENT was held at two Pasco County pump houses in the Colonial Hills neighborhood. The project was a combined effort among Pasco Utilities, the Colonial Hills Civic Association, Raintree Christian Academy and neighborhood children.

The Pump House "paintings" were conducted Friday November 18, 2016 at the 3844 Pensdale Drive Pump House. The Pensdale Drive Pump House was painted by the Raintree Christian Academy students.

On Saturday, November 19, 2016 Anclote Elementary School students painted the Pump House at 5141 Moog Road.

Plans were coordinated by a project committee of the Colonial Hills Neighborhood Association.

The Colonial Hills Neighborhood Association is located within the Elfers District of The Harbors – West Market Area of the Harbors Redevelopment/Infill Plan. The plan focuses on creating thriving communities, stimulating economic growth, improving organizational performance and enhancing the quality of life. The vision of the Elfers District is to create livable neighborhoods with safe and comfortable access to parks, green open spaces, community facilities and neighborhood centers, as well as to preserve and enhance historic features.

The "Paint The Pump House" project serves multiple functions: to improve neighborhood aesthetics of essential neighborhood infrastructure, to connect youth and adults in ownership of their neighborhood and to implement a quick beautification of existing buildings. A colorful, vibrant makeover of the pump houses helps to bring the community together, while enhancing a community asset.

"This project exemplifies residents and neighborhood children taking pride in their community and serves as an excellent example of creative tactical urbanism to improve local neighborhoods and gathering places," said Mary Duke of the Pasco County Planning & Development Department, who is charged with implementation of The Harbors Plan. "We are hopeful this form of community spirit blossoms across The Harbors and Pasco County."

For more information about The Harbors West Market Redevelopment/Infill Plan, click [here](#).



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The pump house at 3844 Pensdale Dr, before its makeover.

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The same pump house getting beautified.



Pasco Co. Public Transportation collects 10,000 lbs. of food!

“Stuff the Bus” event benefits local food banks

THE PASCO COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (PCPT) is thrilled to announce the results of the annual “Stuff the Bus” food drive. The community came out in force – donating more than 10,000 pounds of food, 40 turkeys and over \$800 in cash donations for The Volunteer Way Food Pantry.



Plato Academy of Trinity member donates trunk full of food.

Community partners and individual Pasco County residents showed up to collection sites in New Port Richey and Dade City Saturday, November 19, 2016 with food-laden trunks and shopping carts – more than quadrupling last year’s collection of 2,000 pounds of food!

“We are amazed at how much food the drive collected from the community,” said Director of Pasco County Public Transportation Phil Pumphrey. “We would like to send a big, heartfelt thank you to the community and local organizations for their generous donations.”

The Volunteer Way distributed the food the week of Thanksgiving to those in need – helping provide a complete Thanksgiving meal to Pasco County children, seniors, adults and families.

The annual “Stuff the Bus” event is held in partnership with The Volunteer Way and PCPT.

The Volunteer Way is a nonprofit volunteer organization that has been serving Pasco County’s homeless and low-income families for over 20 years.



Xcel 360 donates a truck bed full of food.



Volunteer Way and PCPT staff collect big boxes of food.

For more information about Pasco County Public Transportation, visit: <http://www.ridepcpt.com>.

For more information about The Volunteer Way of Port Richey visit: <http://thevolunteerway.org>.

Pasco Upcycle Festival experiences huge growth

Thousands enjoyed pairing of waste reduction and art

THOUSANDS TURNED OUT for the 2nd Annual Pasco Upcycle Festival in Sims Park on November 12, marveling at the work of more than 80 vendors who made roosters out of tires, jewelry out of spoons, wall art with welded tools, drums out of propane tanks, and pallet signs with whimsical sayings.

The event was moved to Downtown New Port Richey to attract more people, and this year more than six times the number of people showed up! About 3,300 enjoyed this year's festival – up from 500 visitors last year!

"We are so thankful for the community's support," said Keep Pasco Beautiful Coordinator Kristen King. "It was exciting to see so many talented vendors, who are such an inspiration."

Vendors sold things like local honey, pepper jelly, and native plants while The Buskrats and Clemons Road provided bluegrass and country music.

The Pasco Upcycle Festival is held in conjunction with American Recycles Day. The event aims to change behavior by teaching people to reuse items and reduce the amount of waste in our environment.

The Pasco Upcycle Festival is a partnership between Keep Pasco Beautiful and Pasco County.



PASCO ANIMAL SERVICES

Pet Adoption CENTER

Call Pasco County Animal Services Department to Adopt:

LAND O' LAKES • 813-929-1212

NEW PORT RICHEY • 727-834-3216

DADE CITY • 352-521-5194

[Click to visit the Pasco Animal Services Website](#)



See the newest pets available on Pasco TV at 7:15 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Frontier ch 42

Bright House ch 643

Some of the pets awaiting forever homes!



Bea • 31455142



Jackie • 34165707



Laverne



Jerry • 33890041



Haven • 34122295



Cringle • 34242433

Hudson holiday homecoming story goes viral

National and international media coverage of evicted woman returning to her home

ON NOVEMBER 16, 2016, ANGIE TYMA WAS EVICTED from her home of more than 30 years. The 89-year-old, heartbroken, with nowhere to go, turned to Pasco County Human Services.

Pasco County Human Services Manager Kim Price and Case Manager Mandi Cauley helped a very reluctant Ms. Tyma gather some belongings, and took her and her two small dogs to a nearby motel. Price arranged for the rest of Ms. Tyma's belongings to be secured in the Pasco County Boys and Girls Club building until she could be relocated.

In the meantime, Ms. Tyma's neighbor, Danielle Calder, contacted the property investment company that had bought the home at auction and worked diligently with them to buy the home back! She closed on the property Friday, December 2nd and worked with Pasco County Human Services to quietly move all of Ms. Tyma's belongings back into the home.

On Tuesday, December 6th, Calder surprised Ms. Tyma (on her birthday, no less) by bringing her back home—for good.

The story was reported by local media such as the *Tampa Bay Times*, ABC Action News, and Fox 13. From there, the story was quickly picked up by national media like the Today Show, *People Magazine*, *Good Housekeeping*, Yahoo News, and MSN News.

Additionally, international news outlets ran the story, such as the *Independent* in the U.K. and *Irorio* in Japan.

Click on the various media logos at right to read or view coverage of this heartwarming story.



Angie Tyma (r) receives the keys to her house from neighbor Danielle Calder.
Photo by Douglas Clifford, Tampa Bay Times



Photo of Angie Tyma's home in Hudson as featured in the Independent's story.
Photo by Crystal Clark / Twitter



Pasco County offers Christmas tree recycling

Drop off a tree for recycling or pick up a tree for repurposing

PASCO COUNTY RECYCLING is reminding residents that they don't have to trash their Christmas tree after the holiday season – they can recycle!

"We put the trees through a chipper and use them for mulch," said Pasco County Recycling Supervisor Jennifer Seney. "Christmas tree mulch can be used to cover hiking paths, control weeds and accent landscaping. Residents can also relocate their tree to a brush pile at home to make an excellent wildlife habitat."

Some residents like to pick up used trees for firewood. "That's okay with us," said Seney. "We call it repurposing and we're tracking that also. So drop off and recycle or pick up and repurpose."

Before you recycle your tree, Pasco County reminds you to remove all decorations, tinsel and metal hooks. Then drop it off between December 26, 2016 and January 8, 2017 during normal business hours at one of the following locations:

- CENTRAL PASCO: Land O' Lakes Community Center, 5401 Land O'Lakes Blvd (us 41) Land O'Lakes
- CENTRAL PASCO: Wesley Chapel District Park, 7727 Boyette Rd (North end at Overpass road), Wesley Chapel
- EAST PASCO: John S. Burks Memorial Park, 13220 Gene Nelson Boulevard, Dade City
- EAST PASCO: Sam W. Pasco Recreational Complex, 39835 Chancey Road, Zephyrhills
- NORTH CENTRAL PASCO: West Pasco Class III Site, 14606 Hays Road, Spring Hill
- NORTHWEST PASCO: Veterans Memorial Park, 14333 Hicks Road, Hudson
- SOUTHWEST PASCO: Anclote Gulf Park, 2305 Baillie's Bluff Road, Holiday
- WEST PASCO: Jay B. Starkey Wilderness Park, 10500 Wilderness Park Road, New Port Richey

Pasco County residents recycled 1,142 Christmas trees last year – up from 842 in 2014.

Click [here](#) for more information about recycling in Pasco County.



Overflow parking expanded at Anclote River Park

Additional 70 overflow parking spaces now open

THE OVERFLOW PARKING IMPROVEMENTS at Pasco County's Anclote River Park at 1119 Baillies Bluff Rd, Holiday, Florida are complete and the new parking area is now open.



The new boat trailer overflow area includes a spacious, grassy parking area, a paved turnaround loop and marked spaces to better serve the boating community.

The overflow parking adds 49 boat trailer

spaces and 21 car spaces for boater guests. It also includes additional lighting to better illuminate the parking area during early morning or late evening excursions.

For more information about the Anclote River Park and all it has to offer, click [here](#).

Visit us online [here](#) to learn more about the county's beautiful parks, environmental lands & recreation opportunities, or to reserve park facilities.



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Your Opinion Matters to Us!

Send us your questions or comments

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